State Spotlights

MARCH 2010

NEW MEXICO

Prior to the New Mexico Heath Department receiving both ELP and EIP Recovery Act funding, NM's HAI Advisory Committee had conducted one pilot year of HAI surveillance using CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN). Six hospitals participated, and the Committee published a report on the findings.

Using momentum from prior activities, NMDOH has applied the ELC funds to create an HAI coordinator position and has worked with the Committee to develop a State HAI Plan. To promote NHSN participation among facilities, NMDOH held statewide trainings and monthly teleconferences, as well as a large conference in February. An additional goal of this conference was to recruit facilities to participate in two upcoming prevention collaboratives, one focusing on healthcare worker influenza vaccinations and the other on central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSIs). A separate HAI Prevention Collaborative Steering Committee was created to lead these efforts.

Using the EIP funds, NMDOH has created another HAI-related position. In addition, NMDOH has been actively involved in plans to conduct validation studies of NHSN data in the EIP network. Beginning this summer, NMDOH will also participate in a pilot EIP-wide HAI hospital prevalence survey, with a larger survey planned to follow.

INDIANA

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) is leading a two-year, statewide HAI prevention collaborative — the Indiana Healthcare Associated Infection Initiative. ISDH Healthcare Leadership is dedicating its March 2, 2010, conference to kick off the initiative. The conference will provide tools and other resources related to preventing *Clostridium difficile* and other infections the Initiative will address.

The Leadership Conferences began in June 2007 and have grown in attendance from 720 participants to more than 1,100 participants. The conferences are intended to bring together statewide healthcare leaders to promote important care quality issues. The March conference will include long-term care, hospital, and home health providers; state surveyors; healthcare organizations; and individuals with significant interests in healthcare.

Visit http://www.in.gov/isdh/24769.htm to learn more about the Initiative.

Fifth Decennial International Conference on Healthcare-Associated Infections 2010
March 18-22, 2010
www.decennial2010.com

NORTH DAKOTA

The North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) recruited and engaged several key stakeholders in its multidisciplinary state advisory group including the ND Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) chapter, the ND Hospital Association, the ND Long Term Care Association, the Department of Health's Division of Health Facilities, and the ND Critical Access Hospital Quality Network. The group guided the development of the state HAI Plan.

Recently, NDDoH reached out to many state HAI prevention partners, including state health departments across the country, on topics such as state HAI legislation and outbreak response strategies. This has opened new communication pathways and allowed for beneficial sharing of resources and experiences. In addition, NDDoH sought insight from state infection prevention leaders. In an attempt to share information and to acquire even more support for state efforts, NDDoH is creating a manual to describe state HAI prevention plans to in-state stakeholders. The HAI coordinator will present this to key partners including the state APIC chapter.

Coming Up...

State Users of NHSN Call March 10, 2010, 2pm- 3pm EST

MRSA Infection Specific Call for ELC/EIP Grantees March 15, 2010, 1PM-2PM EST

C. DIFF Infection Specific Call for ELC/EIP Grantees March 23, 2010, 1PM- 2PM EST

CAUTI Infection Specific Call for ELC/EIP Grantees March 25, 2010, 1PM- 2PM EST

CLABSI Infection Specific Call for ELC/EIP Grantees March 29, 2010, 1PM- 2PM EST

Your PHAs will send the bridgeline, password, and Webinar URL information for these calls.